Programme of Organic Products (NPOP). Under the Scheme financial assistance is being provided to its registered exporters for Market development, Infrastructure development, Quality development, R&D and Transport assistance.

(c) Question does not arise.

Sanction to new rail line projects

†*373. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have not accorded sanction to some new railway line projects due to lack of resources; and

(b) whether in view of the lack of proper railway network in Rajasthan, the State Government propose to accord sanction to the projects *i.e.* Bhiwadi-Delhi-Ahmedabad, Jaisalmer-Sanu-Jaisalmer, Barmer and Jaipur-Nathdwara rail lines, taking into consideration the development of industry, minerals and tourism in the State?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Many new lines could not new be taken up due to their unremunerative nature, heavy throwforward of sanctioned projects and constraints of resources.

(b) Chief Minister, Rajasthan has requested for taking up new lines between Rewari-Bhiwadi, Jaisalmer-Sanu and Jaipur-Nathdwara.

Sewage treatment plants

*374. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact a study conducted by the Centre for Science and Environment has indicated that many of the rivers in the country are headed towards an environmental disaster;

(b) if so, the details of the report and Government's response thereto;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of sewage treatment plants in the country do not meet the standards for the discharge of effluents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the projects set up to clean major rivers, funds earmarked, spent and results achieved, so far, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The study entitled "Sewage Canal - How to Clean the Yamuna" by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) deals with the problem of sewage generation and disposal and the increasing pollution levels in the river Yamuna, among some of the other rivers. The report suggests ensuring measures such as prudent water use through a package of fiscal measures, decentralization of sewage treatment, reuse and recycling of treated sewage, improved utilization of STPs and achievement of a minimum flow, including survey of water bodies & programme for rejuvenation of water bodies to improve water storage & water flow in the rivers. The ever increasing pollution load due to excessive growth of population calls for concerted effort by all the agencies concerned by way of budgetary and non-budgetary commitments, inter-sectoral coordination, revenue generation for maintenance of assets by introduction of user charges, & adoption of site-specific strategies. The CSE is a NGO and while its recommendations would be studied with intent, they cannot bind the policy and fiscal actions of the Government.

(c) As per a report of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB 2006), there are 231 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) at present working in Class-I, Class-II cities & other smaller towns in the country. Besides, 38 are under construction. The notified effluent standards for STPs for discharge in surface water bodies are: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)-30 miligrams per litre and Total Suspended Solids (TSS)-100 miligrams per litre and Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)-250mg/L. Based on the performance evaluation of 115 STPs carried out by CPCB, 70 STPs were reported to achieve the standards for discharge in surface water.

(d) The National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) is under implementation for undertaking pollution abatement works in the major rivers of the country and at present covers 34 rivers with works undertaken in 160 towns spread in 20 States at an approved cost of Rs. 4783 crore. Under this Plan, the

Central grant of Rs. 2232 crore has been released to all the implementing agencies of the participating State Governments till March, 2007. An expenditure of Rs. 2451.99 crore till December, 2006 is reported to have been incurred by the State Governments including expenditure out of the States' shares. The statement indicating Statewise sanctioned Schemes, funds earmarked, and spent, and results achieved so far in terms of STP capacity created is given below.

Statement

State-wise sanctioned schemes, funds earmarked, spent and results achieved so far in terms of STP capacity created.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Number of Projects Sanctioned (31.03.2007)	Number of Projects Completed (31.12.2006)	Cost of Projects Sanctioned (31.03.2007)	Expenditure Incurred (by State) (31.12.2006)	STP Capacity created (In MD*) (12/2006)
1	Andhra Pradesh	25	17	370.93	133.87	24.46
2	Bihar	18	14	3.95	2.98	0.00
3	Delhi	14	12	333.34	160.70	30.00
4	Goa	5	1	14.10	10.92	12.50
5	Gujarat	13	13	101.96	95.08	232.00
6	Haryana	117	111	250.97	250.08	322.00
7	Jharkhand	15	5	4.38	1.46	0.00
8	Karnataka	42	24	66.34	49.68	36.93
9	Kerala	6	0	18.45	0.00	0.00
10	Madhya Pradesh	59	48	75.35	67.63	144.41
11	Maharashtra	24	16	115.86	91.14	155.00
12	Nagaland	6	0	31.74	0.00	0.00
13	Orissa	21	6	60.33	31.04	33.00
14	Punjab	60	34	215.68	219.72	30.20
15	Rajasthan	7	5	1.36	0.77	0.00
16	Sikkim	1	0	15.81	6.72	0.00
17	Tamil Nadu	68	45	868.24	726.57	393.00
18	Uttar Pradesh	231	189	878.72	442.03	445.81
19	Uttranchal	44	22	70.62	15.79	4.18
20	West Bengal	178	59	220.41	106.30	55.85
	Cetp (West Bengal)	3	1	76.96	39.52	20.00
	GRAND TOTAL:	957	622	3795.53	2452.00	1939.34

*Mld million litre per day.